Sl. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
13.	Maharashtra	59.31	54.74	70.96
14.	Manipur	23.26	17.78	27.64
15.	Meghalaya	21.13	14.57	17.50
16.	Mizoram	13.81	44.41	67.00
17.	Nagaland	11.13	21.06	27.10
18.	Orissa	111.00	159.00	128.48
19.	Punjab	131.00	135.00	53.85
20.	Rajasthan	39.33	44.37	44.64
21.	Sikkim	16.25	12.00	23.50
22.	Tamil Nadu	49.00	150.03	141.99
23.	Tripura	9.48	13.75	13.77
24.	Uttar Pradesh	94.11	80.62	55.41
25.	West Bengal	165.20	76.18	112.00
26.	A & N Islands	10.25	14.25	7.01
27.	Chandigarh	5.75	1.10	3.70
28.	Dadra & N. Haveli	0.53	—	0.80
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—
30.	Delhi	49.72	9.59	25.15
31.	Lakshadweep	19.80	—	9.00
32.	Pondicherry	16.80	8.85	8.75
	TOTAL:	1502.49	1313.63	1354.76

Central Scheme for Feed and Fodder Development

1260. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the states under implementation of Central Scheme for Feed and Fodder development; and

(b) the assessment of the sucess of the scheme; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Central Minikit Testing of Fodder Crops is being implemented in all the States and the Union Territories except Chandigarh, Daman & Diu and Delhi.

Centrally sponsored Scheme of Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development is being implemented in all the States except Bihar and Goa, as these States have not submitted any proposals.

(b) No State-wise assessment of the schemes has been under taken. However, achievements of physical and financial targets are monitored annually.

Resignation of NDDB Chairman

1261. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman, National Dairy Development Board, has submitted his resignation and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether his successor has since been selected from amongst the retired bureaucrats and if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not accepting the recommendations made by the outgoing Chairman who has built up this organisation as one of the most successful cooperative movement and largest milk producer in the world? State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (d) Dr. V. Kurien had expressed his desire to step down from the post of Chairman. The term of Dr. Kurien as Chairman was expiring on 27.11.1998. Dr. Kurien recommended the appointment of Dr. (Miss) Amrita Patel for the post of Chairman, NDDB. The Central Government on the recommendations of the Search Committee, has appointed Dr. (Miss) Amrita Patel the Chairman. She is not from amongst the retired bureaucrats. Infact she has served the National Dairy Development Board for the last more than 10 years as Managing Director.

Credit action plan for farmers

1262. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently reviewed the position regarding credit requirements and institutional framework in various States with a view to ensuring adequate and easy credit to the farmers' all over the country without any hastle;

(b) if so, details of credit action plan formulated for the current year and Ninth Plan based on realistic assessment and perspective development/changes planned in agricultural sector;

(c) whether some of the States have taken fresh initiatives in this direction; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government are considering issuing Agro Credit Card to the farmers alongwith other reforms and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) With a view to ensuring availability of adequate and easy credit to the farmers all over the country, the Working Group on Agricultural Credit and Cooperation (including Crop Insurance) on IX Plan undertook a comprehensive review of the credit flow to the agricultural and allied sectors. As per the assessment made by the Working Group, the requirement of credit in this sector is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 229,750 crores for the IXth Plan. Flow of institutional credit during the current financial year in this sector is estimated at Rs. 38,645 crores. Further, with a view to strengthening the institutional credit system in the country for providing adequate and timely credit to the farmers and for increasing agricultural production, various measures/initiatives have been taken. Details in regard to the measures/initiatives taken are indicated in the Statement.

Statement

Measures/initiatives taken for strengthening the Institutional Credit system in the agricultural and allied sector

With a view to strengthening the agricultural credit system, verious measures/ initiatives have been taken. These include the following:—

(i) A proposal has been initiated for revamping of Cooperative Crridit Structure to ensure timely and adequate availability of credit to the farmers.

(ii) The State Governments have been advised to constitute standing Committees to assess the requirements of agricultural credit for the Rabi and Kharif seasons and to review the perfomance thereof.

(iii) Steps have been initiated for reformulation of Muliti-State Cooperative Societies Act, with a view to restoring the autonomy of the cooperative institutions.

(iv) Action has been initiated to amend the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Act 1962 to diversify the activities of NCDC and to provide it operational freedom and access to resources.